

JEFFERSONIAN DEMOCRAT.

BY RICHARD JACOBS,

"The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people."—Constitution of the United States.

EDITOR & PROPRIETOR.

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THE JEFFERSONIAN DEMOCRAT is published every Saturday, at Three Dollars per annum, in advance.

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Money may be sent by mail at our risk, if a receipt is first taken from the postmaster.

Job Work must be paid for on delivery.

From the Chit Lick Advertiser,
THE GHOST OF THE LATE NATIONAL BANK.

If you have a spare hour for reflection, and who is there that has not? we will deign to spend it better, or more morally, than in perusing attentively a large document which will be found below, entitled "The Ghost of the National Bank." Indeed, if any thing would be calculated to drive evil spirits from their dark and hidden abodes, such scenes as are there developed, are calculated to do it. The particulars of the infernal scheme are there given, which Nicholas Biddle, the very idol of the nation, during his connection with the United States Bank, and of our John Andrews, played a part in that institution, at one haul, four hundred thousand dollars, and now we are to give any account of this infernal piece of swindling, on the plea that it would injure them to a criminal case, or to a criminal mind too, that this villainous robbery was carried on, and that the United States Bank was rotten to the core, and it was yet a national institution, and that it was adopted by the State of Pennsylvania. These swindlers expected to escape detection, from the supposition that they would have been a sufficient quantity of State bank notes lost, and destroyed, to conceal their crimes. It turned out, however, that more notes were brought to bank for payment than what had been on the book of the bank as having been issued; and this led to an investigation of the very of the villainous transaction, which traced out of the many robberies which had been committed by the officers of the United States Bank on innocent stockholders. Many of these stockholders are now and orphans, in this country and in Europe, who are now reduced from a state of competence and comparative affluence, to poverty, penury and the utmost distress, plunging their whole means in this expedition. Yet these arrogant knaves, these rascals on our social system, these corrupters of morality, who have left a moral desolation, famine and misery behind them, are permitted to run at large, and even to live in fashionable society.

It was but a few weeks since, that we noted in the National Gazette of this place, a letter, said to be written by this same villainous financier, Nicholas Biddle, (better known as "Old Nick") on the subject of speculation, forsooth; and, if we mistake not, it was spoken of in high terms by that ill-fated sheet. If the Gazette has any idea of standing for such an outrage on the decency of civilized society, we would recommend it to copy the present document into columns. You will find, however, that the Gazette, in regard to these bank robberies, will do its best to keep its readers in the dark, in regard to these bank robberies. How could it possibly be able to place before the public, unless these bankers had their privilege of robbing the community. This is only one instance among many. Yet this one single robbery is greater than four hundred working men could realize by their labor in a life time.

When the Federal leaders talk to you of Henry Clay and a National Bank, and the men of these things. When they tell you that the bank was good and honest, and afforded "the best currency the world," while it was a national institution, let them know that this system of robbery was going on at the very time—till these leeches sucked from the masses of the people millions of dollars, and were in the hands of their carcasses behind. If politicians can put a good face upon robbery, then we will accept them as being an over-match for "Old Nick."

The Ghost of the late National Bank.—Following is an extract from a bill of exchange in chancery against Nicholas Biddle, the X-President of the late National Bank, in order to discover to what purpose he applied \$400,000 alleged to have

been taken by him and the cashier, John Andrews. To this bill, a demurrer was put in, which we also append. The principal argument seems to be, that the transaction took place a long time ago. It will be observed that the operation took place while yet it was a national bank, before it became a State institution:

"And your orators further state, that between the 16th day of February and the 1st day of March, in the year 1836, or thereabout, the said John Andrews, being such first assistant cashier as aforesaid, drew various checks or orders on the said first teller for the same, and delivered some part or the whole of the same, over to the said Nicholas Biddle; the said checks being drawn, and the said money paid over to and received by the said Nicholas Biddle, by concert between the said Nicholas Biddle and the said John Andrews. And your orators further state, that the whole amount of money so drawn for and received by the said John Andrews, and paid over by him, in whole or in part, to the said Nicholas Biddle, amounted to the sum of four hundred thousand dollars, or thereabout; and that the said sums of money, so obtained, were never applied to or used in any legitimate business of the said bank; but, on the contrary, were wasted by them, the said Nicholas Biddle and John Andrews, or applied to some uses by them, for which they cannot claim credit against the said bank or her assigns, and were never accounted for them to the said bank.

"And your orators further charge, that the said Nicholas Biddle and John Andrews having thus obtained the sum of four hundred thousand dollars and upwards, did in order to give a false aspect to the transactions, resort to sundry contrivances, to wit:—The said checks of John Andrews, commonly called cashier's vouchers, for the said sums amounting to four hundred thousand dollars, or thereabout, were (as were also all the vouchers of the same kind) retained by the same first teller in his drawer, until the day should arrive when he should be required to account for the moneys in his hands, or under his control, belonging to the said bank, which said accountings periodically, he entered these vouchers in a certain cash book kept by him, called the first teller's statement, under the head or title of "sundries;" and the said Nicholas Biddle and John Andrews, in order to repossess themselves of said vouchers, caused ten notes of the Bank of the United States, called parent post notes, to be executed by the officers to whom the execution of such notes belonged, on the 1st day of March, 1836, but bearing the date of the 10th of February, 1836, each of said notes being for the sum of forty thousand dollars, and caused them to be entered in a certain book of the said bank, called "The General Parent Post Register," but under the date of the 10th of February, 1836.

"And your orators further charge, that the said Nicholas Biddle and John Andrews having possessed themselves of these ten post notes, delivered them to the said first teller, and took from him the said vouchers for four hundred thousand dollars, leaving these post notes as a substitute for the same.

"And your orators further state, that on or about the 1st of March, 1836, (that being the next accounting day of the first teller) the said Nicholas Biddle and John Andrews did take out of the drawer of the said first teller, the said post notes, and caused the same to be burned in the presence of a certain committee of the directors, called the committee on the state of the bank, to whom the office or duty belonged, of burning the circulation of the said bank which had been reclaimed and which it was intended to reissue—this day having been devoted to them by a certain resolution of the board of directors of said bank, passed on the 1st day of March, 1836.

"And your orators further state, that the said Nicholas Biddle and John Andrews caused the said committee to believe that the said notes, so burned, were notes which had been in circulation, and had been returned to the bank and redeemed, and were not intended again to be put into circulation, (as the charter of the said bank was then about expiring,) and which it was therefore proper should be destroyed; and that they also, further caused the said committee to believe that the notes so burned were bank notes—that is, notes payable on demand; so that the said committee expected to the board of directors on the 1st of March, 1836, that they had on the 1st day of March, 1836, counted, and destroyed by burning, the circulation of the said bank and its branches, withdrawn from circulation, to wit: notes of the parent bank, four hundred thousand dollars; notes of the various offices, two million one hundred and twenty-eight thousand eight hundred and twenty dollars; drafts of five, seven hundred and three thousand nine hundred and eighty dollars; making an aggregate of three million two hundred and eighty-two thousand eight hundred dollars.

"And your orators further charge, that

the said Nicholas Biddle and John Andrews caused the said resolution of the 1st of March, 1836, to be passed, authorizing said committee to destroy, by burning, three million two hundred and eighty-two thousand eight hundred dollars in notes, had as to be cancelled; they well knowing that the notes answering the description in said resolution, were short of three million two hundred and eighty-two thousand eight hundred dollars, by four hundred thousand dollars; but they caused that sum to be inserted in the resolution, for the purpose of furnishing them with the means of preventing the exposure of the said operation, by which they had so obtained the said sum of four hundred thousand dollars.

"And your orators further state, that the said Nicholas Biddle and John Andrews having so caused the said post notes to be burned, they ordered and directed the said teller, in his statement of his cash account, to credit himself with four hundred thousand dollars of bank notes as having been burned, and to reduce his line of "sundries" by an equal amount; so that the line of sundries which had stood on the 29th of February, 1836, at one million four hundred and fifty-six thousand five hundred and eleven dollars and forty-nine cents, was, on the 1st day of March, 1836, one million forty-nine thousand nine hundred and five dollars and forty-two cents, that being the result of the said subtraction, with a small variance caused by the fluctuating character of the account.

"And your orators further state, that the said Biddle and Andrews well knew that, by so doing, (according to the course of book-keeping in the said bank,) the parent bank note account would be debited immediately (as in fact it was) with four hundred thousand dollars parent bank notes as having been burned.

"And your orators further state, that the books of the bank contain an account of parent post notes, where any issue of post notes that had been actually redeemed, and burnt or destroyed, should be debited; but as the said amount is small compared with the parent note account, it does not furnish equal facilities for these transactions as did the parent bank note account, although the large denominations in which post notes usually were made, afforded greater facilities of procuring the proper subject for the said burning before the committee than ordinary bank notes, which, being of much smaller denominations, would have required greater labor, and much time, to credit to the extent of four hundred thousand dollars.

"And your orators further state, that it was commonly thought and anticipated at this time, that a very large amount of the notes of the old bank would remain in circulation, or were destroyed and would never be returned to the bank; in consequence of which, the said account furnished the best means of concealment, as it was thought that the same would never be balanced.

"And your orators further declare, that by means of the premises, the said Nicholas Biddle and John Andrews did not effectually conceal their said obtaining and appropriating of the said \$400,000, and the same remained so entirely concealed from the other officers of the said corporation, and from all others but the said Nicholas Biddle and John Andrews, until the month of June, 1839, when the same was brought to light in the manner following, to wit:—The said parent bank note account is made creditor for all notes which were issued by the bank, and is debited with all notes returned to the bank, and cancelled or destroyed; and after the expiration of the said charter of the old bank, the notes were turned so fast, that in the month of June, 1836, there were less than four hundred thousand dollars thereof outstanding; so that the false entry, above stated, made the balance of the account exceed the credit side—or, in other words, made it appear that more notes had been destroyed than had ever been issued; which, as it was impossible in the nature of things, led to inquiries, which resulted in the detection of the transaction above described and set forth.

"And your orators further charge, that upon the discovery of the above stated errors and misentries, the subject was referred to a committee of the directors of the bank chartered by the aforesaid act of Assembly; which committee directed the parent post note account to be credited with four hundred thousand dollars, and the account entitled "losses," chargeable to the contingent fund, to be debited with the same, thereby transferring this loss to that account.

"And your orators further declare, that this, though insofar right that it relieved the parent bank note from said false entry; yet as this account of losses, chargeable to the contingent fund, was in fact the profit and loss account of said bank, the charge said four hundred thousand dollars was expended in the contingent expenses of the bank, it was wholly unwarranted. And your orators declare, that it was so intended, the same was done by and under the influ-

ence and by direction of the said Nicholas Biddle and John Andrews, for the purpose of further concealing the said misappropriations of the funds of the said bank."

The following is the demurrer:
"Demurrer.—The demurrer of Nicholas Biddle to the bill of complaint of the President, Directors and Company of the Bank of the United States, and others.

"This defendant, by protestation, not confessing or denying all or any of the matter and things in the said complaints' bill to be true, doth demur thereto—and for cause of demurrer sheweth, that the complainants have no interest in the subject of the bill, or title to institute a suit concerning it; that the subject of the suit is not within the jurisdiction of a court of equity—that the situation of this defendant renders it improper for a court of equity to compel a discovery, inasmuch as the bill charges the defendants with acts which would subject them to a criminal prosecution—that the alleged cause of suit occurred more than six years before the filing of the bill—and that the bill is, in other particulars, defective and informal; wherefore this defendant demands the judgment of this honorable court, whether he shall be compelled to make any other or further answer to the said bill, or any of the matters and things therein contained, and prays that he may be hence dismissed, with his reasonable costs in the behalf sustained.

"10th June, 1843."

A Roaring Orator.—"Mr. President, I shall not remain silent, sir, while I have a voice that is not dumb in this assembly.—The gentleman, sir, cannot expostulate this matter to any future time that was more suitable than now. He may talk, sir, of the Herenacum revolutions whereby republics is hurled into antediluvian regions, and the works of centuries refrigerated to ashes—but, sir, we can tell him, indefatigably, that the consequences thereof, multiplied substantially by the everlasting principles contended for the day, can no more shake this resolution than can the roar of the midnight ten post note fire engine in the statue in ice. That's what I told him!"

(Exchange paper.)

Valuation of a Lover.—The Philadelphia Sun states that a fellow was engaged to a girl in Maine, but liked her sister better than he did her. Wishing to be off with the old love before he entered on the new, he asked his betrothed what she would take to release him—she replied that about sixty-two dollars she thought was as much as he was worth; whereupon he ponied up the cash, took a quit claim and married the sister.

Instead of saying to a young lady—"please to take a cigar," you should say—"will you condescend so far as to sacrifice your convenience to my pleasure, as to insert the five digits and part of the extremity of your coniguous arm through the angular aperture formed by the crooking of my elbow against the perpendicular portion of my animal frame?"

"You mustn't smoke here, sir, said the captain of a North river steamer to a man who was smoking among the ladies on the quarter deck. "I mustn't they? Why not?" replied he opening his cavernous mouth, and allowing the smoke lazily to escape. "Don't you see the sign? all gentlemen are requested not to smoke about the engine."

"Bless your soul, that don't mean me—I'm no gentleman!"

The Lost Man.—A lady a few evenings ago, after having for some time attentively read Mrs. Shelly's novel, entitled "The Lost Man," threw down the book and emphatically exclaimed, "The last man! Bless me! if such a thing ever were to happen, what would become of the women?"

Finesse.—"Will you take a glass of whiskey with me?" asked a tapper of a dissuader. "No, I don't drink," was the reply. "What? you make whiskey and don't drink it?" "No—it's only made for such fools as you," replied he coolly.

A trickster working at the top of a house, fell through the rafters, but not being hurt, he jumped up and cried with triumphant tone to his fellow laborers—"I defy any man among you to go through his work as quick as I did."

A Printer whose talents were but indifferent turned physician. He was asked the reason of it: "In printing," said he "all faults one commits are exposed to the eye; but in physic, they are buried with the patient."

Lord Bacon on being asked to drink the King's health replied that "he would drink his own health, and pray for that of the King's."

Libel Suits.—"That slanderer is often beneficial to the person slandered, is indisputable. We recollect in an edict in point. A man somewhere out west was elected to Congress. He was totally unequalled in every respect for the position. A friend at Washington once asked him:

"How the deuce did you manage to get elected?"

"I stole a pig."

"Hey?—what?—How? Is stealing pigs considered a qualification for congress?"

"No—but as soon as it was known, the papers on both sides took it up, and, of course, each had to defend me. A great noise was made about it—we called it an attempt to destroy the spotless reputation of an innocent man for party purposes—the people got roused, and I got in."

At the next election his opponent was elected. His friend meeting him one day, asked how it happened.

"Oh, I lost the fellow," he replied "he smelt the rat and got the start of me. He stole a sheep."

The Printers' Ghost.—The following fearful Ghost story we find in a late Cincinnati paper:

In our humble opinion, one of the punishments that some of our people will find prepared for them in Tartarus, will be, to be chased round and round its gloomy circumference by the ghosts of printers! Imagine, readers, how you would feel going it in the marshes of Styx, at your extremest price, followed by the shade of a defunct publisher, with a "sharp stick" in one hand and a bundle of unrecipited accounts in the other! Remember, too, this will be no single dash of a mile; but that it will be continued until your executors or heirs balance books on each!

The Whigs are going to erect in Baltimore, on the day of their great convention, ash trees cut from the farm of Henry Clay. They had better mix a little soap grease with their ashes, and wash themselves clean of such folly.

From Hayti.—The N. Y. Herald learns by an arrival at that port, that a French fleet of 14 or 16 sail was lying off Port-au-Prince, awaiting the payment of the remainder of the indemnity due France by the Haytiens.

Father, said a wistful looking lass about the age of sixteen, "I know something about grammar, but I cannot decline matrimony, nor see the reason why myself and Gilbert cannot be conjugated."

No plaster can be made strong enough to draw genuine tears from a hypocrite's eye—money from a miser—generosity from selfishness—truth from a slanderer—honesty from a thief—or a prize in a lottery.

The sleepy Critic, or Nodding Assent.—"I didn't like the minister's sermon, last Sunday." "Didn't like it brother A?" "Why, I saw you nodding assent to every proposition of the parson."

The Editor of the Norwich Spectator says—"It's hard work to look at the sun without winking; but harder still to look at some of our young women without feeling inclined to wink."

When you sleep at meeting, do it without disguise or concealment—a church is no place for hypocrisy, besides, to sleep at your ease on such occasions, shows that your conscience does not trouble you.

A man of wit once said rightly enough.—"He who finds a good son-in-law gains a good son—he who finds a bad one loses a daughter."

Lord Dorset used to cry of a good-natured, though dull fellow. "It is a thousand pities that man is not ill-natured, that we might kick him out of company."

"I hate to hear people talk behind one's back," as the robber said when the constable was chasing him and crying "stop that thief!"

A Dandy fell into the fire the other day, and being unable to raise, his head was entirely consumed. Lucky there was nothing in it.

A rugged countenance often conceals the warmest heart—as the rich pearl sleeps in the roughest shell.

Pakistan is a tyrant; oppression is galling, but no taskmaster is so severe as unregulated appetite.

"Pa, isn't that man in what is called the spring-time of life? "Why, my son! "Cos he looks so comfoudly green."

Pleasure was made for man, not man for pleasure.